



Indiana Economic Development Corporation

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Gabriel Paul  
Staff Attorney  
Indiana Department of Transportation

Dear Mr. Paul:

Pursuant to IC 4-22-2-28, the Indiana Economic Development Corporation ("IEDC") has reviewed the economic impact analysis for small business associated with rule changes proposed by the Indiana Department of Transportation ("INDOT") and contained in LSA Document # 07-471, which amends 105 IAC 7-1 and 7-3 to update definitions and terms, to establish formal procedures for the permitting of changeable message signs as defined in IC 8-23-1-14.3, to define the types and configurations of changeable message signs allowed on state highways and to update the list of controlled areas to which the rule applies. Entities affected by the rule include those businesses seeking permits for changeable message billboards. In 2006, a total of fifty (50) companies submitted permit applications for traditional signs to INDOT. Additionally, since the Governor signed the law authorizing changeable message signs on April 25, 2007, eight (8) addendum applications for changeable message signs have been submitted to INDOT. Information submitted as part of the permit process does not provide INDOT the information necessary to determine precisely how many of these entities may be classified as small businesses. The cost of a changeable message ranges from \$300,000 to \$500,000 and may limit the number of permits sought by small businesses. However, INDOT believes that there may be approximately four (4) or five (5) Indiana small businesses in the billboard industry.

The economic impact statement provided by INDOT indicates that the proposed rule imposes no new reporting or record keeping costs on any business, large or small. Additionally, the adoption of this rule does not have any annual economic impact upon small businesses. Even if a small business applies for a permit, the proposed rule would not create incremental costs for them because the current fee structure in existence for regular static signs will also apply to changeable message signs.

The IEDC does not object to the economic impact of the changes contained in the rule, as the rule changes do not impose any new reporting or economic costs on small businesses. If you have any questions about the comments contained herein please contact me at 232-8962 or [rasberry@iedc.in.gov](mailto:rasberry@iedc.in.gov).

Regards,

Ryan Asberry  
Assistant Vice President  
Indiana Economic Development Corporation